

CONFIDENTIAL

8 July 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Director's Conversation with Senator William Proxmire
Re Appearance Before Joint Economic Committee

Today Senator Proxmire called the Director to request his appearance in open session of the Joint Economic Committee sometime during the week of 9 August 1971 to testify on the Soviet defense budget. The Director explained our policy against appearances in open session, and proposed that, as in the past, we provide relevant material to the State Department for incorporation with their presentation on this subject. Senator Proxmire questioned the basis for the Agency's policy of not appearing in open session and the Director explained it was in accord with the desires of our oversight committees. He remarked that the policy had originally been established under Senator Russell and that Senator Stennis was now the one to whom we looked for guidance on such matters. He suggested that Senator Proxmire might want to raise the matter with Senator Stennis.

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[Redacted Box]
Legislative Counsel

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7. (Secret - GLC) Met with Bill Woodruff, Counsel, Senate Appropriations Committee, and briefed him on several current intelligence items including ChiCom MIG-19 production, latest information on the "Backfire" bomber, the Soyuz 11 problem, the nuclear test on 30 June, and the latest evidence of ICBM silo construction.

STATSPEC

8. (Unclassified - GLC) Hand-carried to Richard Moose, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, material collected for him by [redacted] covering statements made by the North Vietnam and the NLF on peace negotiations.

9. (Secret - GLC) Met briefly with Ralph Preston, House Appropriations Committee staff, and firmed up arrangements for the Director's meeting with Chairman Mahon tomorrow morning and our budget hearing next Tuesday, 13 July. Both meetings will be held in Room H-140 of the Capitol at 10 a.m. No transcript will be taken at either of these sessions.

10. (Confidential - JMM) In a telephone conversation I explained to Senator John Stennis that the Director wished me to consult him about two problems, one involving a request from Senator Proxmire for the Director's appearance before an open session of the Joint Economic Committee, and one involving a request from Senator Muskie for an Agency-sponsored TRW study. Senator Stennis said he would call me later to fix a date for a meeting but in the meantime wanted to tell me he was concerned about Senator Cooper's bill to make CIA information available to the Senate as a whole, and wanted to speak against this bill, and at the same time pay tribute to the Agency. He asked that we prepare material suitable for this purpose to be available early next week.

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